

**WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION  
AUGUST 7, 2006**

The Williamsburg City Council held a work session on Monday, August 7, 2006, at 2:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers of the Stryker Building.

**ATTENDANCE**

Present were Ms. Zeidler and Messrs. Haulman, Chohany, Freiling, and Braxton. Also present were City Manager Tuttle, Assistant City Attorney Workman, and City Clerk Crist.

Staff Attending: Assistant City Manager Miller, Chief Weiler, and Mr. Walentisch.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Zeidler called the meeting to order.

**OPEN FORUM**

Mayor Zeidler asked for comments. No one wished to speak. The session was closed.

**Matter of Special Privilege**

**Recognition of Summer Youth Achievement Program, Human Services Director Peter Walentisch**

Mr. Walentisch said the participants in the Summer Youth Achievement Program were present. The program has been in operation for twelve years and has two components: during the summer and year-round after school and weekends. Council has always been very supportive of the program. Mr. Walentisch thanked the recreation department for their cooperation and recognized Human Services staff members Zaida Reyes, Theresa Atkins, Rebekah Fariss, Shante Harvey, Paul Rice, and Tony Freeman for their work with the program (applause).

**Tyquan Mitchell**, a participant in the program, thanked Council for the opportunity to be in the program. The program teaches responsibility, respect, and role modeling.

**Crystal Randall**, a participant in the program, commented that students learn the importance of staying in school, how to take care of themselves, and leadership skills. She thanked Council for their sponsorship.

Mayor Zeidler thanked all of the participants for attending. She recognized the youth for their dedication and commitment to improving themselves during the summer program. They are articulate, smart, and focused. (photograph taken of Council and participants)

Mr. Walentisch invited Council to attend the Summer Youth Achievement Program closing ceremony scheduled for Friday, August 11, 12 noon, at the Community Building.

**Williamsburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority—Update on Projects, Jim Gurganus, Director**

Mayor Zeidler welcomed Mr. Gurganus.

Mr. Gurganus said that the Housing Authority, formed in 1970, is a political subdivision of the State and is governed by a board of five commissioners. Its purpose is to provide decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing for the residents of the city. Mr. Gurganus provided a history of the Authority's first redevelopment projects.

Mr. Gurganus recognized the members of the Housing Authority staff, most of whom were present: Housing Manager Ben Timmonds; Community Services Coordinator Terry Bales; Maintenance Supervisor Kenny Johnson; Mechanic Bart Burcham; Secretary Jalana Richardson; Finance Officer Lori Stubbs; Housing Specialist Joan Andrews; and Project Development Coordinator Denis LeBlanc.

He provided Council members with demographic information about the people served by the Authority and discussed some of the recent and past projects undertaken by the Authority such as the Triangle Building renovations, Braxton Court Rehabilitation project, and the Strawberry Plains Redevelopment project. The authority has also purchased several individual lots and houses to be rehabbed and sold to low-to-moderate income persons. The Authority also works in partnership with James City County and the Town of Smithfield, assisting them with housing projects. Current activities of the Authority include the efforts to acquire five parcels on S. Henry Street and plans for a new office building near the Blayton Building. Mr. Gurganus was pleased that the Authority has been very successful in helping first time homeowners. In the future, it will continue with their work to improve housing standards in the city (full report attached).

Mr. Gurganus was very appreciative of his staff and was looking forward to continuing their work to improve the housing standards in the city.

Mayor Zeidler thanked Mr. Gurganus for his leadership over the past ten years. The city is proud of the Housing Authority and their mission.

Mr. Haulman was appreciative of the privilege of working with Mr. Gurganus and his staff and recognized the Authority's leadership role in regional programs.

Mr. Chohany appreciated the work of Housing Specialist Ms. Andrews and was impressed with her abilities.

Mr. Gurganus reviewed the requirements of the Authority regarding owned-occupied housing. He commended the work of the authority's commissioners and their commitment to home ownership.

At Mr. Freiling's request, Mr. Gurganus explained that the house located at 100 Braxton Court was sold to an over-income family because the Housing Authority had to pay a higher price for the property, as well as pay for the improvements to the home. It was a good thing to have an over-income family in the neighborhood.

Mr. Gurganus asked that the record reflect the members of the Housing Authority Board: Sharon Scruggs, Clyde Haulman, David Watson, Joyce Alewynse, and Oliver Tabb.

Mayor Zeidler commented that she met last week with staff members of Representative Jo Ann Davis's office. One of the issues discussed was housing (rentals, HUD subsidies, and model

CDBG projects). She invited Ms. Davis' Chief of Staff to tour the work of our Housing Authority, to see the housing opportunities in this community and to see grant dollars at work. He expressed an interest in doing so, and the Mayor asked that a follow-up letter be sent to Ms. Davis' office.

### **National Incident Management System (NIMS) Orientation—Fire Chief Weiler**

Chief Weiler reported to Council members regarding the city's efforts to comply with the Department of Homeland Security's National Response Plan (NRP) which establishes a comprehensive all-hazards approach to enhance the ability of the United States to manage domestic incidents. It forms the basis of how the federal government coordinates with state, local and tribal governments, and the private sector. Chief Weiler reviewed the basics of the plan, and the roles and responsibilities of state, local and tribal authorities (presentation information attached). City employees are being trained to comply with the NRP. The plan defines and refines how we coordinate and communicate with other agencies in an emergency situation, and this system is being used throughout the nation.

Council members recognized the benefits of this program and thanked the Chief for this important presentation.

### **Preview of August 10, 2006 Council Meeting**

No additional information was requested.

### **Schedule of Meetings: August 2006**

Regional Issues Committee Meeting: Mr. Freiling reported that the committee thoughtfully discussed the concept of coordinating the timing of comprehensive planning for the city, James City County, and York County. It is a complicated process to adjust the schedule of planning. The three jurisdictions supported this effort and there could be a recommendation before Council for consideration in the near future.

Summer Intern—City Manager's Office: Mr. Tuttle recognized Matt Young, the summer intern working with Michele DeWitt in Economic Development. Matt is a student in the Public Policy Program at William and Mary.

### **OPEN FORUM**

The Mayor asked for comment. No one wished to speak. The session was closed.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Haulman Moved that City Council go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussing one legal matter per subparagraph personnel matter per subparagraph 7 for the purpose of consultation on specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by Counsel, concerning the pending sale of city property. The motion was Seconded by Mr. Chohany.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:

Aye: Freiling, Braxton, Zeidler, Haulman, Chohany

No: None

The meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m. The Mayor called a five-minute recess.

At 3:35 p.m. Council met in Open Session.  
Mr. Haulman Moved the Certification of Closed Meeting. The Motion was Seconded by Mr. Chohany.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:  
Aye: Freiling, Braxton, Zeidler, Haulman, Chohany  
No: None

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING**

Date: August 7, 2006  
Motion: Mr. Haulman; Second: Mr. Chohany

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Williamsburg has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the City Council that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Williamsburg hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the City of Williamsburg.

VOTE:  
Aye: Freiling, Braxton, Zeidler, Haulman, Chohany  
No: None

Absent During Vote: None  
Absent During Meeting: None

The meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Approved: September 14, 2006

Mayor Jeanne Zeidler

Shelia Y. Crist  
Clerk of Council